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determining the result. Commercial considerations are adequately considered, and the author confirms, with some additional evidence, Dr. Mackinnon's gloomy picture of the material conditions of the country during the forty years following 1707. This is all the more interesting since Dr. Mackinnon's views on this point have been challenged by at least one competent Scottish historian. In the three chapters on the church Mr. Mathieson is on ground where he is *facile princeps*. Most excellent are the accounts of the rise of latitudinarianism, the strife over clerical appointments, the intrusion of methodistical enthusiasm, the secessions, and all else that vexed the repose of rigid orthodoxy.

The statements of fact to which one might take exception are few and unimportant. In speaking of the final negotiation for the Union as the third (p. 110) the author must leave out of account that under Cromwell, who, if he forced his measure on the Scots, at least went through the form of having commissioners appointed. In stating that Walpole resigned in February, 1742, on "finding that his majority had almost disappeared" (p. 341), he seems to ignore the well-known fact that the Government had been actually defeated in the vote on the Chippenham elections. Again, perhaps it is hardly correct to speak of the "discoveries" of Vasco da Gama (p. 342). Although he opened the trade-route from Portugal to India, Diaz had already rounded the Cape of Good Hope, and the waters over which he sailed thence were already familiar to Mohammedan traders. But after all has been said the book forms a welcome addition to a most important phase of British history.

ARTHUR LYON CROSS.

*The Old Colonial System.* By GERALD BERKELEY HERTZ, M.A., B.C.L., Lecturer on Constitutional Law. [Publications of the University of Manchester, Historical Series, No. III.] (Manchester: At the University Press. 1905. Pp. xi, 232.)

THIS very enlightening discussion of "the causes, character and results of Great Britain's old colonial system" is timely; for it supplements in a remarkable way the recent researches of several other writers in the same field. The author's conclusions rest upon a more sustained and critical examination of the "immense storehouses of the writings of the day", particularly the controversial pamphlet literature produced in the British isles, than hitherto has been made. The mercantile imperial theory appears clearly as the primary cause of the separation of the colonies; and in this regard Mr. Hertz's conclusions are in sharp contrast to the views of some recent writers in the United States, who are almost inclined to view that theory as a deterrent rather than a provocative of revolution.

Under the old régime there was no conscious oppression, no deliberate malice. "In actual fact, the old colonial policy was based upon the very sensible ideal of a self-sufficing empire. That ideal was applied with a selfish bias by British ministers" (p. 38); but it was a

common ideal throughout Christendom; and it was "encouraged by the popularity of mercantilism". Politically and to some extent economically the system had its advantages. Thus, in the hope of making the empire self-sufficing, liberal bounties were offered for colonial products. Though these efforts were in part a failure, "we can only say that the ideal for which such sacrifices were made was in itself great and good" (p. 44). Yet, for this ideal, the slave-trade was deliberately encouraged by the empire. This was due "partly to the British resolve to force the colonies to cultivate tobacco rather than to follow industries calculated to compete with home manufactures" (p. 45).

The first of the twelve chapters into which the book is divided deals with "Great Britain and the Seven Years' War." In this war the old colonial system "reached the height of its power". It was largely a contest for trade; and its mercantile aspects are here appreciated in a most interesting way. In the second chapter "Pitt's Influence as Minister" is considered; and the conclusion is reached that Pitt fully believed in the adequacy of the prevailing colonial theory, and made no attempt to create a form of colonial policy which might have perpetuated the fabric of the expanded empire. The analysis of the "Dialectics on the Question of Taxation" in the fourth chapter shows how naïvely English disputants took "America's economic disabilities as matters of course and irrelevant" (p. 78); and it tends to sustain the thesis that George III. has been too harshly criticized as the cause of the dissolution of the empire. "The American colonies would have tried to sever themselves from Great Britain, had she been a republic instead of a monarchy, and George III. been a cypher instead of a despot" (p. 90).

The seventh chapter is devoted to a strong defense of the case of the "United Empire Loyalists", particularly the merits of the constructive scheme of Galloway; while in the eighth and following chapters the fact is clearly established that the war spirit of the British during the Revolutionary struggle was supported by the traditional colonial theory which had never been abandoned, except so far as the innovation of taxation for revenue was concerned. In fact, the old colonial system in essential principle was maintained in the Canadian provinces until it produced the rebellion of 1837.

GEORGE ELLIOTT HOWARD.

*The Development of the European Nations, 1870-1900.* By J. HOLLAND ROSE, Litt.D. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1905. Two vols., pp. xi, 376; v, 363.)

THESE volumes bear a suggestive and promising title, and the reader who is acquainted with Mr. Rose's thorough work in the Napoleonic age will open them with large expectations. It will be discovered very quickly however that the ambitious title is misleading, and that, whatever may be the merits of the work, it is not a presentation of the "Development of the European Nations". It might be fairly called